

# ADC Helps Katrina's Survivors

## *Agency Provides Supplies and Manpower to Relief Efforts*



An ADC inmate walking through cots that are set up for evacuees.  
Photo by the Arizona Republic

Whether its providing security, supplies or donating funds, the Arizona Department of Corrections is doing its best to support *Operation Good Neighbor*.

ADC is working with the Governor's Office, the Arizona Departments of Public Safety and Homeland Security and the Red Cross to help Hurricane Katrina survivors who have been evacuated to the Veterans Memorial Coliseum in Phoenix and the Convention Center in Tucson. The Department was activated September 3, and continues to deploy staff, inmates and other critical resources.

Director Schriro selected Ernest Trujillo, the emergency preparedness administrator, to oversee the department's response.

As Emergency Preparedness Administrator Trujillo heads ADC's emergency management functions. Trujillo is coordinating ADC's response from the agency's new Emergency Operation Center at Central Office.

"Response from staff has been exceptional. Each prison complex has been flexible and very responsive to requests," Trujillo said.

The Department's Emergency Operations Center was activated September 3 at approximately 9 a.m. Twelve staff members are managing the functions in the EOC and are coordinating the complexes responses as supplies are needed. ADC also assigned staff to the Coliseum command post.

ADC has contributed in a number of ways:

- Inmates from the Perryville Wildland Fire Crew have been working at the Coliseum from the beginning. The female inmates set up cots, bedding and cafeteria tables. The Lewis Wildland Fire Crew has joined the Perryville crew and both crews are assigned to the Coliseum to maintain sanitation. A crew of 20 inmates from Florence pitched in at the Coliseum to help package supplies.

- Staff is working around-the-clock at the Coliseum. Eight female Correctional Officers including one supervisor, are assisting DPS in building security and supervising female shower and restroom facilities. Two correctional officers are also manning metal detectors in the main entrance 24 hours a day, seven days a week. The metal detectors were provided by ASPC-Lewis.

- Laundry services have been activated at ASPC-Perryville, Lewis and Tucson. ADC is cleaning clothing and linens for the evacuees and will maintain laundry services throughout the operation.

- Community Supervision staff are coordinating with the State's housing department to develop a long-term housing plan for hard to place evacuees



Chris Mendoza of Eyman counts inmate-made mattresses to be used by the evacuees.

and ensure home placements meet their needs.

- Human Resources is recruiting employees on-site.

*To date, ADC has delivered the following supplies to the Coliseum for our new neighbors:*

- Metal beds
- Mattresses
- Blankets
- Sheets
- Pillows
- Pillowcases
- Towels
- Washcloths
- Fishnet laundry bags
- Canvas duffle bags
- Televisions
- Walkman radios
- Pinochle deck playing cards
- Chess and checkers sets
- Jigsaw puzzles
- Deck playing cards
- AA dry-cell batteries



ADC delivered many games to the Coliseum.



# From Her Desk



Dora Schriro

Our colleagues in the departments of corrections in the states of Louisiana, Alabama and Mississippi need our help. Many have lost their homes, all of their possessions, even loved ones. As they continue to serve their states with distinction through the aftermath of the hurricane, let's come together to support them.

We have been in contact with our colleagues in the Louisiana Department of Public Safety and Corrections, and the Departments of Corrections in Alabama and Mississippi. By all reports the damage from Katrina to our co-workers and their facilities in Louisiana in particular is catastrophic and the needs of all three agencies' corrections staff is profound.

Accounts have been set up expressly to help the staff of the Louisiana's Department of Public Safety and Corrections and the Mississippi Department of Corrections. Those of you, who are able kindly, contribute cash or checks payable to our colleagues in Louisiana to the *Hurricane V Fund* and to our co-workers in Mississippi to the *CFGJ/MDOC Fund*. You can also contribute to the *CFGJ/MDOC Fund* by credit card. Please turn in your

donations to your complex's business office or to the office of your division director as soon as possible.

A number of national corrections organizations has also come together notably, the American Correctional Association, the North American Association of Wardens and Superintendents, and the Association of Women Executives in Corrections, to accept donations for correctional staff affected by the hurricane in all three states. If you'd prefer to contribute to this multi-state effort, please donate cash or make out your check to the *ACA Hurricane Relief Fund* and give it today to your complex's business office or to the office of your division director.

And, yes, inmates are invited and encouraged to contribute, too. To date, prisoners have donated over \$22,000 to Katrina's victims and survivors.

You will be proud to know that ADC is also responding to requests to provide staff assistance in Louisiana. We are currently seeking qualified volunteers with expertise in classification to assist Louisiana's Department of Public Safety and Corrections. You're welcome to forward an e-mail to Mr. Bennie Rollins, copy to Ms. Audrey Burke, expressing your interest in serving.

We are also playing a big part in Arizona's relief efforts to assist Katrina's survivors here at home. We've deployed a number of *correctional officers* to help set up the Coliseum, provide on-going security, and oversee inmate work and

sanitation crews 24x7 in Phoenix and Tucson, and we've expanded laundry operations at several of the complexes to launder bed linens, towels and clothing for both locations as well. The complexes also dug deep and transported in record time hundreds of TVs, walkman radios and batteries, playing cards and other passive recreational supplies. *HR staff* is manning a recruitment booth and reports a new hire its first day in operation and several other applicants ready to start. *ACI* has stepped up to plate, too, providing metal beds, mattresses, pillows, blankets, sheets, towels, and laundry and duffle bags. *CIRT members* and *investigators* have formed teams to help ADC staff and others in state service locate their loved ones living in hurricane stricken communities. Our *parole officers* are partnering with the department of housing to locate domiciles for hard-to-place evacuees and to determine if housing stock that's been offered by private citizens and the private sector is safe and otherwise suitable for our newest neighbors.

Words cannot express how proud I am of your professionalism. You serve this state with distinction. Thank you!

Sincerely,

Dora Schriro

## Donation Procedures

To ensure funds are received as quickly as possible by our corrections colleagues in Louisiana, Mississippi and Alabama please follow these procedures:

- Shift commanders are the point of contact for collecting funds in the units and by shift.
- The day shift commander will turn over all funds collected over the past day's shifts to the on-site duty officer.
- The on-site duty officer will centralize and maintain tracking of all funds collected by account.
- The on-site duty officer will ensure the funds are turned over to the complex business manager as early in the shift as possible.
- The complex business manager is the point of contact for collection and will ensure funds are mailed daily to each designated account.

## Help Wanted: ADC Female Uniformed Staff



An evacuee from Hurricane Katrina, plays with Corrections Officer Cacy Dubin at the Veterans Memorial Coliseum.

Photo by Jack Rust, Arizona Republic

The Arizona Department of Corrections is supporting Operation Good Neighbor by providing needed supplies and staff at the Veterans Memorial Coliseum in Phoenix and the Convention Center in Tucson.

We are seeking female uniformed staff to assist the Department of Public Safety in supervision of activities involving female and juvenile evacuees.

Female uniformed volunteers for this duty are encouraged to call the ADC Emergency Operations Center at 602-542-1244 from 0700 to 1900 hours. After hours, contact the Central Office Communications Center at 602-542-1212 to sign up for shift coverage. Paid overtime compensation is available at 100 percent cash.

Officers are asked to wear the Class 'B' uniform ( no polo shirts). You represent the Department and your appearance should reflect our highest standards. The following information should be provided when you call in to volunteer:

- Name
- Complex
- Dates and times available to work
- Contact information for scheduling purposes

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# ADC Staff and Inmates Prepare Coliseum



Sergeant Norma Rubio and Correctional Officer Romel Reategui supervise inmates working at the Coliseum.

They have been deployed all summer to help fight fires in the forests of Arizona. This past week the 14-women and three staffers who makeup the Wild Land Fire crew from ASPC-Perryville received a different call: prepare the Veterans Memorial Coliseum for 1,000 evacuees from Louisiana. The crew led by Sergeant Norma Rubio, and officers Karri Hook and Romel Reategui, was one of the first to turn the old basketball arena into a temporary home for the many who lost everything from Hurricane Katrina. Since September 3, they have been there every day working eight to 10 hour shifts to ensure our new neighbors stayed in a safe and sanitary environment. Their first assignment was to

unload 800 cots that the evacuees are using as their beds.

Then, they set up the cafeteria. They erected partitions, moved items that were going to be used for the state fair later this month, and helped clean the facility inside and out.

“At first we were doing everything and it was really cool because you could see the whole place being transformed,” Sergeant Rubio said. “Now everybody is lending a hand. From ADC we have staff helping and a lot of volunteers from the department and everybody is working together really well.”

When you walk onto the main floor of the coliseum you see that just about everything there our crews have had a hand in setting up and maintaining.

“The inmates have worked really hard and they are really excited about being here,” Rubio said. “They donated some of their items and money to the cause and now they can give something back to the community. That is something they want to do.”

As hard as the inmates have worked the staff has been right there with them.

“We normally work side-by-side with the inmates

on the fire crew,” Rubio said. “We support each other, we are a team out there and that is what we are accustomed to doing. We give them direction and show them what needs to be done and we lend a hand.”

The response from the staff of the Coliseum, who supervise other work crews from Perryville on a regular basis, has been ecstatic, and Sergeant Rubio is quite pleased with the work her crew has done and is proud to be a part of Operation Good Neighbor.

“This is a great feeling. We are helping out people from very far away from here,” Sergeant Rubio said. “Usually you see these things on TV and maybe donate money but we actually got to work and do something. We actually have helped out people so they can have a place to stay. It has been really fulfilling.”



Inmates loading mattresses on to a flatbed truck. The mattresses were delivered to the Veterans Memorial Coliseum.

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Staff at the Emergency Operations Center, 1601 W. Jefferson in Phoenix, is busy coordinating ADC's participation in Operation Good Neighbor.

This operation is expected to continue through September at the Coliseum, so we need your sustained support.

For more information contact:

Ernest J. Trujillo  
Emergency Preparedness Unit  
Offender Operations Division  
Arizona Department of Corrections  
(602) 364-2291

## Louisiana Evacuates Inmates



Correctional officers from Elayn Hunt Correctional Center (EHCC) in St. Gabriel, La. give inmates instructions prior to the inmates boarding buses and vans to be transported for temporary assignment. EHCC served as the Department's staging facility for evacuating inmates from Orleans and Jefferson Parishes.

The evacuation of 7600 inmates from Orleans and Jefferson Parish presented a huge logistical challenge for the Louisiana Departments of Corrections and Public Safety. Many Corrections Officers, support staff and probation and parole agents have worked around-the-clock for days to ensure the safety and well being of Louisiana citizens. The Department has also helped with civilian evacuation.



# Donate to the Victims of Hurricane Katrina through SECC

The Gulf Coast has suffered devastating losses due to Hurricane Katrina. State of Arizona employees are rallying to provide financial assistance to help the hurricane’s survivors.

In addition to supporting our correctional colleagues in Louisiana, Mississippi and Alabama, you can also help others who have been impacted by Katrina by giving through the State Employee Charitable Campaign (SECC) through these service providers:

- American Red Cross (indicate “Katrina Disaster Relief”) - **code 1403**
- Operation Blessing - **code 1390**
- Christian Reformed World Relief Committee - **code 331**
- Church World Service - **code 0310**
- Salvation Army - **code 0338**
- United Methodist Committee on Relief - **code 0352**

The SECC is an effectively run charitable campaign . In 2004, Arizona state employees raised more than \$1.67 million for SECC. ADC was its most generous group of contributors. Because employees volunteer to help with the campaign and its events, 94 cents of every dollar raised is distributed to charitable organizations.

Your support is greatly appreciated. For more information, contact your local SECC Coordinator or Virginia Strankman at (602) 771-2100, extension 338.



# ADC Delivers Two Metal Detectors



Sergeant Jeffery Lewis of ASPC-Phoenix works his post at the metal detector.

The Arizona Department of Corrections delivered and is operating two metal detectors at the entrance of the Veterans Memorial Coliseum in Phoenix. ADC has assigned two Correctional Officers, one male and one female, to man the post around-the-clock. The metal detectors are located at the arena’s main entrance.

Correctional Officer Gracie Vasquez of ASPC-Phoenix said, “The evacuees are very appreciative. Many of them come up to me and say thank you.”

COII Roberto Gonzales, also from the Phoenix complex, said, “The people we scanned were grateful for the job we were doing, they know public safety is not easy.”

## Staff and Inmates are Good Neighbors

### Operation Good Neighbor Collections:

Complex	Contributions
Douglas	\$411
Eyman	\$3,903
Florence	\$3,566
Lewis	\$5,943.49
Perryville	\$862.38
Phoenix	\$1,506.96
Safford	\$1,905.50
Tucson	\$5,034.02
Winslow	\$967.57
Yuma	\$5,338.61
Total	\$29,438.53

Donations were made to:

- Hurricane V Fund
- ACA Relief Fund
- Hurricane Katrina Relief through SECC
- Church World Service
- Christian Reformed World Relief Committee
- American Red Cross
- Salvation Army
- United Methodist Committee on Relief

# RUSH Helps Evacuees Find Jobs at ADC



Alan Webster, one of the first evacuees hired, is interviewed by Officer Delvonne Foley. Webster is working as a records clerk at Central Office.

The Arizona Department of Corrections Recruitment Unit for Selection and Hiring informed the evacuees of the career opportunities in the Department. RUSH recruiters and staffing analysts are stationed from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. at the Coliseum.

Out of the 500-plus displaced persons about 150 are single folks that want to remain in Arizona and that is the group ADC is targeting.

RUSH is working with other offices in the agency, as well as other state agencies, to process and hire qualified applicants as quickly as possible.

To help speed up the process, ADC has received direct hiring authority. The Department of Administration has waived some of the usual paperwork, giving ADC more authority to hire. Of course, potential employees will undergo the usual background screening and meet the eligibility requirements for the Correctional Officer Training Academy.